

OFFICER DECISION RECORD

CMT Officer: Carol Pilson Corporate Director & Monitoring Officer	Service: Communities, Environment and Leisure
Lead Officer: Phil Hughes, Head of Leisure Services/SRO March Future High Street Project	Delegated Power Being Exercised: Part 3 - Responsibilities for Functions; Tables 4 and 5, Table 4, Para 74: To manage the Council's property and engineering assets. To undertake the Council's asset management functions.
Subject of Decision: Appointment of third-party assessor of the grounds maintenance contracting market	

Decision to be taken:

Further to legal advice to assure Best Value, the appointment of a third-party to assess the grounds maintenance contracting market is required to support any extension to the existing Ground Maintenance contract.

Decision:

Phil Hughes, Head of Leisure Services will place an order to the value of £1,545 with KEO consultancy for information regarding the Grounds Maintenance contracting market and information regarding FDC's existing contract in terms of best value, should FDC extend the current GM contract.

Reason for the Decision:

A third-party assessment will give the Council the assurance that a further contract extension does offer the Council the best value option.

Alternative Options Considered (if appropriate):

See January 2026 Cabinet Paper regarding Grounds Maintenance contract.

Background/Reports/Information considered and attached:

See January 2026 Cabinet Paper regarding Grounds Maintenance contract

Legal and Procurement Implications

N/A for this value

Financial Implications

Using FDC Open spaces revenue budget already in place

Lead Officer's Signature: Phil Hughes, Head of Leisure	Date: 26 January 2026
---	-----------------------

Please forward to Democratic Services upon completion

For Office Use Only	Implementation Date: 26/01/26
----------------------------	--------------------------------------

Date copy passed to Democratic Services 29/01/26	(if not called-in) (Allow 5 clear working days after publication of decision)
---	--

Circulation: Democratic Services, Portfolio Holder, Officer and Accountancy.